



EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

SALEM, Oct. 1, 1878.

Before this, I had intended to write something of the members of the House, but overran with other care, and with no time to write at all, it has been impossible. My leisure is limited now, and it would be an overwhelming "crusher" if some knight of quill and scissor should remark that with a little time at my disposal I had done nothing. But as I have no other alternative, I must "take chances," and bide the moment when I shall find some other poor, hurried newspaper scribbler in my predicament, and then say to myself, "Go in, Gregory, with your swashing, blow and win!"

If you enter the house at the proper moment your sight will be greeted with the tall form of Col. White, Chief Clerk, who, with spectacles on, puts one in mind of that feathered emmentment of reputed wisdom and exclusive nocturnal perignations. You listen to him a moment, and you are convinced that the right man has been put in the right place, and, were you as well acquainted with him and liked him as well as does every member of the house, you would hope that he may live forever and never secure election for the Chief Clerkship. The next one to surprise you is that tall flagstaff, Thompson, of Multnomah. He is certainly an active member, and doing well for the "hardworking men," of whom he claims he is the sole representative in the House; he is well off "in this world's goods," and fights fearlessly for what he favors; but should he ever become reduced in circumstances financially, it is certain he would not be an object of pity; since he could make his fortune by hiring himself out at a handsome figure as a flag pole in Fourth of July processions.

But Multnomah has another representative, and like all leading men in the State, he comes from Southern Oregon; I have reference to Loyal B. Stearns. His characteristics are his earnestness, and the care he takes in making his speeches; and, by the way, he makes a good speech whenever the question is of that pith and moment to bear an honest and able Representative of the Bourgeois to action. He belongs to Douglas county, and I am certain that, in all matters of legislation, wherein the interests of our people are concerned, he will remember the wants of the people of his former home, and work and vote in their favor. This is presuming our people want nothing but what is right and just for them; and my acquaintance with the warrant me in saying they want nothing else.

The next to attract attention is Mr. Grant of Polk county—a very earnest legislator, an agreeable acquaintance, the sole representative, "as he claims," of the Grange on the floor of the House, and the one who is partnership with flagstaff Thompson, of Multnomah. By partnership, I mean that Mr. Grant and Mr. Thompson work together, and the way both fight appropriations of the public money it is no more than justice to say that the House certainly contains two watchful guardians of the State Treasury. Mr. Grant is in earnest in whatever he does—whether opposing the appropriation of money for "daily and weekly newspapers," or fighting the game law on the ground that meat may be "scarce" and farmers should shoot at those times, though such shooting may be an *contraire* to the wishes of those whom we would term a favored class, and whom others regard as in favor of laws protecting game until it is in a condition for kill-

ing. I respect Mr. Grant as a man whose work shows he wants to do his duty, as asked of him by his constituents, and therefore, I shall leave it to others to speak of his physique, and say that he has a dark complexion (not unlike Slater's) a lean, lank and long figure, and straight locks darker than a raven's wing—a descendant from the family of John Smith and Pocahontas, or rather, claims lineage with Sir Walter Raleigh, since he loves the weed narcotic.

But what shall I say of the Speaker—the Great Mogul of the House. I cannot speak of him otherwise than kindly, since his treatment of all with whom he has been connected has been in that strain pleasing to the hearing of his many friends. There is no fault about him, no fun to be made, and even his quiet deportment and just rulings do not permit a friend to make fun at his expense. I said he had no fault; I "take that back" immediately. He has a fault, but it is a good one. He has a voice that sounds in the tones of a cavalry trumpet, and so clear and distinct that it is often heard in the various committee rooms of the House; and as the parrot said, the members of the lower branch of the Legislature say—"for all of which make us truly thankful."

And what? you will ask of Messrs Campbell and Chenoweth. Well, Mr. Campbell is so busy with his work he has barely time to write home; and Mr. Chenoweth is in the same fix. It is not the case with them that they have found greater attractions than they know of at home; it is not with them that they hope for an Eve and a garden fair, and are doing their best to discover the garden of Paradise in Salem; but they are striving to work for the interests of Douglas county—and I don't believe they think of anything else. It is remarked of them, as well as of Messrs Beckley and Stewart, that they are temperate and industrious, and so far as they are concerned, they all go to comprise the best delegation Douglas county ever sent to the Legislature. I am not sorry, so far, that the Independent was the means of the election of those who now write their names as members of the Lower House of the Legislature. I am truly aware I am crowding space in the paper—and I have not said all I wish to, nor given our members the praise they deserve for their honest, good labor; but there may be a time when I shall make up for all short-comings, and write you more of our law-makers. There must be some room left for other matters, and until then other friends may wait for an introduction through your Salem correspondent. Your correspondent's confrere, Miss Nora Simpson, makes a good Enrolling Clerk, and I am pleased with the good sense the Enrolling Committee displayed in its selection. I am not in favor of woman's suffrage, but I am certainly favorably disposed toward any lady who will make such an honest effort to maintain herself independently, and show the mode of it displayed in the lady named in the work she performs. It is a man's work, the world says; but a lady performs all the requirements of the office, and does her work as well as could any one.

SALEM, October 3, 1878. Last week I wrote concerning Senate Bill No. 57, which provides for the equalization of State taxes. The more thought I give to it, the more I am in favor of the measure. It proposes to remedy the acknowledged evil of the continued diminution of each county's tax in order to escape State taxation, and to forbid the assessment of some of the richer counties at a half million less than they were, as the old song has it, "twenty years ago." It provides for a State Tax Commissioner, as before stated, who is required to visit all the counties in the State and officially note the values and changes in constant progress, and to equalize and adjust the assessments of the several counties for State purposes only. Herein was a fatal defect in the old law. I understood too much, for it attempted to readjust every individual assessment in the State, and as a consequence, a great furor arose against the law. This law proposes that the proper proportionate amount shall be raised for the county, and to let the county equalize as between the individuals therein.

Another leading feature, and one essential to the equalization of taxes, is the *abolishment of all mill taxation for State purposes*, and, in lieu thereof, levy the appropriations as a tax. Without this feature, all equalization laws will prove an entire failure in our State. The reason is, that as property is at present assessed far below its value to raise it to its actual value, as all just equalization laws must be the basis on which our mill tax would be levied to be doubled, and what then is the effect of the mill taxation? namely to flood the State Treasury with much more money than is needed.

At present the assessable value of all the property in the State is over forty five millions; what its actual value is no man can tell; but probably it is 120 million. To levy a mill tax and equalize legislation in the dark. Even a quarter of a mill makes from twenty-five to thirty thousand dollars. The legislature desires to raise \$250,000, why levy a mill tax to raise it; why not levy the amount as a tax, and let the Secretary of State apportion it between the counties in proportion to their equized assessment. Then we have the amount needed, and no more or no less; and little difference does it make how much property is equalized, and full play is given to the law to operate.

The bill also proposes that the people shall be taxed during the two years following each session to pay off the appropriations of that session. This will keep the State out of debt, and will fix an immediate responsibility on each session for the appropriation it makes.

These are the leading features, although there are others of minor importance, and I give a few of the reasons urged in favor of the passage of the bill. Hou-e is still engaged in the consideration of a bill concerning common carriers, and providing against discriminating rates of freight on railroads and steamboats, the State insane, the Penitentiary, and not laws. The first bill cannot receive the vote of Southern Oregon members since its effect, if it becomes a law, will be the increase of rail road freights to all points above Eugene and to Roseburg, and a consequent extra cost to all shippers in Southern Oregon. Rates of freight are now high enough, and to increase them is to virtually put an end to wheat growing in Douglas and other southern counties. At the present time our people make just enough from their wheat to live upon, and if this wheat is to be taken from them by an increase in freight tariffs, they will have to turn their grain fields into pasture lots. Watt's bill will hardly become a law. I have found but very few people who are in favor of putting an extra expense upon counties by changing the present mode of caring for the insane, and especially when the proposed change smacks so strongly of speculation and jobbery. There is a strong effort being made to lease the Penitentiary. There are "millions in it" to the lessee if they secure the prize, and not any benefit to accrue to the State from the lease. K.

A PLAIN STATEMENT.

It is always unpleasant to refer to a disagreeable matter that is past; but even this is necessary sometimes to show to what depth men will stoop to gratify feelings of personal animosity, and to put the people on their guard in future. We cannot otherwise discharge the duty of a journalist. We refer to the matter of opening Washington street through the premises of Mr. Sol. Abraham. The committee appointed to investigate the propriety of the move reported in favor of the proposition—Fink & Griedale signing the report and Conn dissenting. The proposition was now put direct and voted down—Fink & Griedale voting in favor and Conn, Haynes and Lungenberg voting against the measure. Fact and evidence bind upon Fink the responsibility of this move. It evinces on his part a malicious design to use the power the people entrusted in his hands to take revenge upon a private citizen against whom he entertains hostile sentiments. An attempt to use official power to injure a rival raises the matter into a rival raises the matter into a public question, and the press must condemn. Mr. Abraham has had indisputed possession of the grounds Fink proposes to destroy for twenty or more years; and besides by reference to the plot and survey of the city of Roseburg, made by Mr. Fink two years ago, and adopted by the City Council, it will be seen that Washington street extends to and not through Abraham's premises. In face of these facts and against the advice of the city attorney, Fink & Griedale voted to extend the street.

Law and evidence did not influence his action. It was a design on his part to compel the city, in lieu thereof, to shoulder the expense of his personal fights.

The people of Roseburg have more at stake in this matter than Mr. Abraham. With the law and justice against the measure it is extremely doubtful whether the city could compel Abraham to relinquish the ground at any expense. Besides, the ground as it now stands, is in a high state of improvement. The action of Conn, Haynes and Lungenberg deserve high praise for the way they have prevented Fink from using the city treasure to further his selfish ends. With our correspondent, we recommend these gentlemen as safe guardians of city interests. Let Fink measure his individual purse with that of Abraham and keep hands out of the pockets of the people. The people will answer for Fink's future official honors next Monday.

HISTORICAL.

About 25 years ago a company was formed in Jackson county, Oregon, having for its object the exploration of Coos Bay, expecting to open up communications with it and Umpqua valley. In June, 1858, that company consisting of 19 men started, going north until passing the Canyon; thence westward to Carnas valley, then on down the middle fork of the Coquille. There was no trail, and as that stream literally cut the Coast range into sections, the journey was very rough and tedious. In many places they were obliged to travel over rough mountains for miles and then come back to the river a short distance from where they started. After sixty days travel they arrived at the junction of the middle and south forks, finding many Indians some of whom had never seen a white man. They engaged six of these to convey them down the river in canoes. At the mouth there were several hundred Indians who were inclined to be hostile; however, they succeeded in making a private treaty with them and passed on over to Coos Bay, a distance of about thirty miles. When the company arrived at the place now called Empire City, many of them took claims and located the town site. Who knows what hope many of those pioneers had when standing on the upper ground of Empire, and gazing down on the beautiful sheet of water as it came teeming in from the Pacific, realizing that they then stood on the extreme western borders of the United States; and that they had perhaps traveled from ocean to ocean and were now the early settlers of the fair land. With such a beautiful harbor before them, and surrounded with the finest timber in the world, no wonder that lots sold for two thousand dollars, and that all seemed that their fortune was made.

The excitement soon died away and it was several years before there was much sale for lots. Finally a few were sold for about twenty dollars each and gradually the place with several others on the Bay have grown up to be quite lively little villages and Empire city is the county seat of Coos county. Soon after those explorers came to this county others followed. Gold mines were discovered near the mouth of the Coquille and quite a town was built up and called Randolph. It is said that one man took out a mule load of gold on the beach near the town. The village then contained about fifteen hundred inhabitants. In the year 1854 the Indians living around Randolph killed two men living on a slough that ran into the river not far from the mining camp. The miners eventually learned what Indians were guilty and hung four of them which had a good effect. As the tribe never gave the settlers any trouble after the execution. Soon after the Randolph excitement there was gold discovered in Johnson's mountains near the headwaters of the South Fork of the Coquille and many rushed for the new Eldorado; one of those that was on his way to Johnson's was Sam Deunet, but while traveling up the river he came to a beautiful prairie, with a lovely stream of water passing through it, and glens of timber now and then making their way out into the open ground, such as the stately fir, and spreading Matharons with its myrtle tree streaming down, thus combining to make a lovely place. So Uncle Sam located and thus became the first white settler on the Co-

quille. For miles around the grass was waist high and Mr. Deunet has been a very successful stock raiser, and has built up a home second to none in Oregon. Since his place was settled the country has been gradually filling up, and now only twenty five years has elapsed but the steamboat's whistle can be heard every day and the rich bottom land that was then a wilderness is producing large crops of grain and vegetables every year. Three saw mills are in successful operation, and many of the majestic fir and cedar that was then swaying and bowing their lofty heads over the placid waters of the Coquille, or the rough waters of the Pacific, have carried the American colors to every port in the world.

The early pioneers of Coos deserve credit for the zeal and perseverance they manifested in their efforts to open up one of the best counties in the State. This is yet a new country and although much improvement has been made, there is untold wealth here that is undeveloped.

TELLURIUM QUARTZ MINING COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the annual election of officers of the Tellurium Quartz Mining Company, will be held at Canyonville, Douglas county, Oregon, on the 6th day of November, A. D. 1878, commencing at 1 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of electing 5 or more Directors, one President, one Vice President, one Secretary, one Treasurer, one Superintendent and to transact any other business interest of the company demanded.

SHERIFF'S SALE ON EXECUTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT BY virtue of a certain writ of execution issued out of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Douglas, upon a judgment rendered in said court, on the 23d day of May, 1878, in favor of D. A. Levens and against Robert Sullinger for the sum of one thousand and three dollars and 13-100ths (\$1,003 13/100) dollars, directed to me, commanding me to levy upon the personal property of Robert Sullinger, as is not exempt from execution and if sufficient personal property cannot be found, then out of the real property belonging to said Robert Sullinger, to wit: The S W quarter of the N E quarter of section fifteen (15) and the N E quarter of the N W quarter of section twenty-two (22) township thirty (30) north of range four (4) west, containing eighty (80) acres, also the East half of the N E quarter of section twenty-two (22) township thirty (30) north of range four (4) west, containing a sixty (60) acres, situate in Douglas county, Oregon, and containing in all two hundred and forty (240) acres and further I will sell all the right, title and interest of the said Robert Sullinger in and to the premises described as aforesaid, together with all and singular the accoutrements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereto belonging at public auction to the highest bidder for gold coin, at the Court house door in the City of Roseburg, Douglas County, Oregon, on Saturday, the 26th day of October, 1878, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day to satisfy said judgment, together with all legal accruing costs thereon. Dated this 20th day of Sept., 1878. P. F. BENDAMIN, Sheriff of Douglas County, Oga.

NOTICE.

Placer Mining, U. S. LAND OFFICE, Roseburg, Oga.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT D. A. Levens, whose postoffice address is Canyonville, Douglas county, State of Oregon, has made application for patent for placer claim, No. 37, in the Umpqua Mining District, situated in Douglas county, Oregon, on unsurveyed lands described as follows: Beginning at the junction of Brandy Gulch with Hogan creek as the initial point; thence N. 3 degrees, 30 minutes, E. 25 chains, to a "w" post 3 feet long and 4 inches in diameter, marked on four sides, "M. S." also "C" and "37" set for N. E. corner claim as post No. 1; thence N. 89 degrees W. 10.50 chains to post No. 2; thence S. 89 degrees E. 6.55 chains to post 3; thence W. 3.64 chains to post No. 4; thence N. 30 degrees W. 5.55 chains to post 5; thence N. 16 degrees W. 10.00 chains to post 6; thence N. 19 degrees E. 10.50 chains to post No. 7; thence N. 30 degrees W. 5.55 chains to post No. 8; thence E. 3.74 chains to post No. 9; being the above described "w" post 3d, initial point of beginning and containing twenty acres according to plat of survey filed in the Register's office by Surveyor General of the State of Oregon. The foregoing described claim of D. A. Levens is of record; he said applicant, D. A. Levens, having acquired the said claim by purchase from John Stephens, who purchased the same from Joseph Ramsey, the original locator—all of which is a matter of record in the recorder's office of Douglas county, Oregon; and now known as "D. A. Levens' Placer Mining Claim," joined on the east, south and west of unsurveyed Government land, and on the north by ground claimed by L. D. Montgomery. All adverse claims must be filed in the United States Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon, on or before the expiration of this notice. It is hereby ordered that the above notice be published for sixty days in the Douglas Independent, a weekly newspaper published at Roseburg, Oregon. Given under my hand this 5th of Aug. just, 1878. W. F. BENJAMIN, Register.

Notice

Of Sale in the matter of the estate of Loren Davis. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT pursuant to an order heretofore made by the County Court of Douglas County, Oregon, I will on the fifth day of October, A. D. 1878, at one o'clock in the afternoon at the Court house door, in Roseburg, Douglas County, Oregon, sell at public auction, for cash in hand to the highest bidder, subject to widow's dower, the following described real estate belonging to the Estate of Loren Davis, deceased, to-wit: The Donation Land Claim of Robert McKee, containing 140 and 25 100ths acres, all that part of the Donation Land Claim of Robert Phipps, that lies north of the South Umpqua river, containing 120 acres more or less—the S E quarter of Sec 28, Frae N E quarter of Sec 34, N W quarter, Frae S W quarter and N half of S E quarter, N W half of E half and N E quarter of N E quarter of Sec 27 of T 28, S of R 6, W of Williams river, containing 320 and 15 100ths acres and containing in the aggregate 1,301 and 40 100ths acres more or less. All of said land being situated in Douglas county, Oregon. FRANK DAVIS, Administrator of the estate of Loren Davis, deceased. Roseburg, Oga., Sept. 2, 1878.

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Latest Styles and Patterns,

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A FULL LINE OF

Ladies' Dress Goods,

LACES,

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ALSO LADIES AND MISSES' JACKETS—LATEST STYLES & PATTERNS.

Which will be sold at Prices to suit all purchasers.

Also a Full Line of

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HATS, SHOES, Boots, ETS.,

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We shall be glad to assist friends in the selection of homes for their children, and if our suggestions are followed, we assure you the children will be shielded from the evil influences. Board can be had at from \$3 to \$4 per week. Tuition, from \$5 to \$12 per quarter, in Commercial Department; from \$3 to \$6 in Commercial Department; and from \$12 to \$15 in Musical Department. J. H. SKIDMORE, Principal.

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HAS OPENED A CIGAR AND VARIETY Store next door to the barber shop and nearly opposite to the Postoffice, and has one of the largest stocks of Imported and Domestic Cigars in stock ever brought to Roseburg. His stock also embraces all the favorite brands of Chewing and Smoking Tobacco, Meerschaum Pipes, Notions, Candles and other articles found usually in a first-class establishment of the kind. My prices will be low and my time cash, and a share of public patronage is respectfully solicited.

MAHONY'S SALOON,

Nearest to the Railroad Depot, O. Kian

JAS. MAHONEY, Proprietor

THE FINEST OF WINES, SPIRITS & CIGARS

In Douglas county, and the best

BILLIARD TABLE IN THE STATE & Kept in proper repair.

Parties traveling on the railroad will find this place very handy to visit during the stopping of the train at the Oak and depot. Give me a call.

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Groceries, Provisions, Tobacco And Cigars.

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Keeps always on hand a

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And is always ready to sell goods for cash at prices so that all will be satisfied.

QUICK SALES AND READY RETURN

is my motto. Now is the time for your

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Feed Stable,

This establishment is the

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Capable of accommodating any number of horses and wagon.

BEST OF HAY AND GRAIN

Always in full supply at living prices

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Don't fail to give us a call, for we are so

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